

**CHESTERFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY COUNCIL MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING
December 4, 20139:00 A.M.**

PRESENT: Chairman J. Matthew Rivers, Vice-Chair Lenora V. Powe, Council Members: Kenneth A. Johnson, G. Franklin Plyler, Bruce E. Rivers, Robert G. Cole, Gerald L. Miller, Douglas A. Curtis and Crawford Moore.

OTHERS PRESENT: Denise Douglass – Administrator; Susie Boswell – Clerk to Council; Michelle Stanley – Finance Director; C. Heath Ruffner – County Attorney; Lisa Gainey – Human Resource Director; Deepal Eliatamby – Alliance Consulting Engineers; Jamie Frost – Alliance Engineers; A.D. Jordan, Jimmy Little, Irene M. Avery, Mary Bittle, Arlean Edwards and James T. Edwards. There were others attending the meeting who did not sign the sign-in-sheet.

CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER

Chairman J. Matthew Rivers welcomed everyone and Council Member Bruce E. Rivers opened the meeting with prayer.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

Staff has implemented a Service Recognition Program that is designed to honor the County's Employees. The program will recognize years of service beginning at five years and following in five year increments. Council recognized the following employees were recognized and presented with their Certificates:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>	<u># of Years</u>
David Rose	Road Department	11/11/03	10 years
Cubie Shields	Sheriff's Department	11/05/03	10 years

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Council Member Johnson made a motion to adopt the December 4, 2013 meeting agenda with any amendments approved by Council. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 6, 2013 – Regular Meeting

Council Member Johnson made a motion to approve the November 6, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

November 25, 2013 – Special Meeting

Council Member Johnson made a motion to approve the November 25, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

SIGNING OF BONDS, PAYROLL, AND AUTHORIZATIONS

None

APPOINTMENTS

a. Dr. Walt Collins, USC-Lancaster

Appeared before Council to introduce himself to Council and share some information about what USC-Lancaster has to offer and to share information about the residents USC-Lancaster serves.

b. Sheila Morgan, CPA – McAbee, Schwartz, Halliday & Co. – 2012-2013 Audit Presentation

Ms. Morgan presented Council with the Chesterfield County Independent Audit for fiscal year 2012-2013. Chesterfield County has once again received a clean audit.

c. Sheriff Rob Lee/Solicitor Will Rogers

Sheriff Rob Lee

Appeared before Council to thank them for all they have done for the Sheriff's Department. He stated that he had accomplished some of the goals he had set, the first one being to get financially sound and second was digitizing and modernizing the department. He stated he also wanted stability and continuity within the department and that this had been done by making certain promotions and the officers know who they report to and what their job functions are. He advised Council that he would like to better the Sheriff's Department by taking the upper parking lot at the armory and building an administrative building and integrate it into the armory and by building it there, he would have the administrative staff over the department at the armory. The Sheriff stated by doing this he could save the department at least a million dollars.

Solicitor Will Rogers

Appeared before Council and advised Council that he agreed with Sheriff Lee and that he was trying to improve his office and that he needed somewhere to hold meetings in a more private setting than he has now and that by doing this he hopes to have a more effective prosecution. He also advised that he had to move some of his employees to Marlboro County because the office space they are in now is too small and that it is further for them to drive to work. He stated he would greatly appreciate anything the County could provide, like a new office or a nice place for his office and staff.

Chairman Rivers: Stated that his thinking was that the County had bought the old Western Auto and the large portion of the back of that facility seems to be a great place for the Solicitor's Office and that he understood the location that the Solicitor was working in now was just an open room and that it is not appropriate for offices of any kind. Chairman Rivers advised that as he understood it, Sheriff Lee would like to do an addition to the armory, which he felt is well needed.

Council Member Curtis: Expressed his concerns on how the County would pay for these new offices and asked that Council wait a month and let the Building Committee come back with its recommendations to Council as far as what to do, how to do it and how much to fund. He also suggested submitting these projects to the CPST Committee for consideration.

After much discussion Council Member Curtis asked Chairman Rivers would it be appropriate to make a motion to take this to the Building Committee to work with both of these gentlemen.

Chairman Rivers: Stated he felt they could do that but he thought they should authorize them to go forward with it, naturally it would go to the building committee to work with them and he felt they should go ahead and authorize them going forward with the building committee and with the spending authority to accomplish these two projects.

Council Member Moore made a motion to move forward with these two building projects with the spending authority to accomplish these projects. Council Member Cole seconded the motion.

Council Member Curtis: Stated that he was confused on the motion.

Council Member Moore: Stated that his motion was to do both of these projects and the reason is that he looks at things in the long term and that they know these issues are going to come to them either now or later and with interest rates like they are right now, they are not going to get lower and they have talked about this before. Council Member Moore stated that he felt in a long term investment, this is a smart move to go ahead and do both of these and go ahead and knock it out and move forward. He stated he felt in the long term, the savings will be tremendous and he felt this was a smart move from a financial stand point.

Council Member Johnson: Advised that he agreed with Council Member Curtis and he would also like to wait a month and let the Building Committee come back with a proposal. He stated that he was not opposed to it but wanted to see exactly what they were going to do before he voted on it.

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: Commended the new Sheriff on the job that he has done for Chesterfield County. He stated that he felt like Council Member Johnson and Council Member Curtis, he also would like to have a ball park figure of what it is going to cost.

Chairman Rivers: Advised there was a motion to move forward with the projects in conjunction with the Building Committee with the spending authority to accomplish these projects and to approve same per working with the Sheriff and Solicitor.

Motion was made by Council Member Moore to move forward with these two building projects in conjunction with the Building Committee with the spending authority to accomplish these building projects and to approve same per working with the Sheriff and Solicitor. Council Member Cole seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion were Council Members Plyler, Cole, Vice-Chair Powe, Moore, Miller and Bruce E. Rivers. Voting against the motion were Council Members Johnson and Curtis. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Andrew D. (A.D.) Jordan, Jr.

Appeared before Council to introduce himself as a Field Representative for Senator Tim Scott and advised Council that he was available if they ever needed help with anything.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. Project TA FILOT and Lease Agreement Ordinance - PH

Council Member Plyler made a motion to open public hearing. Council Member Johnson seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. There were no oral comments from the public made nor were any written comments received.

Council Member Johnson made a motion to close public hearing. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

b. Project VINO Multi-County Park Ordinance – PH

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers made a motion to open public hearing. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. There were no oral comments from the public made nor were any written comments received.

Council Member Johnson made a motion to close public hearing. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

ORDINANCE READINGS AND RESOLUTIONS

(a) Master Multi-County Park Ordinance Agreement – 3rd Reading

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers made a motion to pass 3rd Reading. Council Member Powe seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

(b) Project TA FILOT and Lease Agreement Ordinance – 3rd Reading

Council Member Plyler made a motion to pass 3rd Reading. Council Member Cole seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

(c) Project VINO Multi-County Park Ordinance – 3rd Reading

Council Member Powe made a motion to pass 3rd Reading. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

(d) Project Apple Multi-County Park Ordinance – 1st Reading, title only

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers made a motion to pass 1st Reading, title only. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

ITEMS SUBMITTED BY COUNCIL

a. Courtroom Improvements – Chairman Rivers

Stated that as some had already brought out earlier, there are some monies that can be used to improve the Courthouse itself and that he had always envisioned at some point in the Courthouse remodeling, that they would honor the longest serving Circuit Court Judge in the State of South Carolina, who happens to reside in Chesterfield County, outside of the Town of Pageland and that of course is Judge Paul Burch. He stated that he had not spoken to Judge Burch, so he has no hand in this. Chairman Rivers stated that of the Sixteen Circuits in the State, we are in the Fourth Circuit which comprises Marlboro, Chesterfield, Dillon and Darlington County and that Judge Burch is the only judge that does not have a presence of being honored in the Courtroom. He stated that Judge Burch is the longest serving; he has the unique distinction of being a member of Council at one point; previously he was a member of the legislative and so he felt it was time to honor him instead of waiting until the Judicial Center is open. He stated that he has discussed this with several members of Council and that he has discussed the particulars with Council Member Rivers because of the Pageland significance and that in his opinion he thought they should honor Judge Burch.

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers: Stated that he considered it an honor to have the privilege of making the motion to honor Judge Burch, to have a portrait hung in our Courthouse of him. He stated that he preceded Judge Burch on Council and that Judge Burch served Chesterfield County very distinguishly in serving this County. He served on the Legislative and did an outstanding job there and an outstanding job in the Judiciary. He is a very compassionate Judge, a very harsh Judge when he needs to be but he is one of our own. He is a part of this community. He has served in many capacities, not only as the Judge for Chesterfield County, State of South Carolina but serves in many capacities in Civic Organizations. Council Member Rivers stated that Judge Burch had served with him in the fire department for almost forty years and that Judge Burch is still a dedicated member to the fire department and is the only volunteer Circuit Court Judge in the State of South Carolina.

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers made a motion that Council pursue to have a portrait Judge Burch hung in our Courtroom. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

Chairman Rivers: Stated that this will be set up via the Finance Committee and he thought this would be the appropriate way, that Council Member Rivers, Moore and Cole are on this committee and he would submit to Chairman Moore of the Finance Committee, the information from the Bar and that he felt sure we could sponsor a reception and have some help from that community.

b. Electronic Notifications – Vice-Chair Powe

Stated that this is something she had been working on since Mr. Thurman was Administrator. As far as Agenda Packets, Council Member Johnson said he didn't get his until 5:00 pm yesterday afternoon. She advised that if we could send them electronically, then everyone would receive them at the same time and she felt they would be able to get more communications going a lot faster and it would be a lot cheaper. She stated that we had 128 pages in the Agenda Packets for today's meeting which would be 1962 sheets of paper that was used for this meeting. This was for 9 Council members including a few others that receive a copy of the Agenda packet. Vice-Chair Powe advised that she would like to submit that Council go ahead and start having them make notifications through Ipads or Droids.

Chairman Rivers: Are you doing that in the form of a motion?

Vice-Chair Powe: Well, yes I will make a motion on it.

Council Member Plyler made a motion that Council start using electronic notifications and that the County will supply the necessary electronics to accomplish this. Vice-Chair Powe seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

c. Animal Shelter – Chairman Rivers

Stated that he had asked to put this on the agenda because this issue has migrated into his district. He advised that he had talked and/or met with several of the people involved or several of the groups involved and that a lot of those ladies and gentlemen were present today. Chairman Rivers gave a brief update on the discussions that have been going on regarding the Lewis Property in which the County purchased and some of the pros and cons for placing the Animal Shelter on this property. He stated that one of the negatives is that it is in a residential area. Chairman Rivers advised that he has viewed the present animal facility we have and there is a piece of property that the County owns adjacent to the present Animal Shelter that would suffice for what we need. It would need sewage but we have sewage adjacent to it via the Detention Center and the beauty of that property is that it is not going to be a nuisance to that neighborhood. There's no persons complaining of smells or sound. Chairman Rivers advised that he felt Council ought to go forward with building the facility not on the Lewis Property for

the animals but for building it next to the present facility using the same type labor. We have got good staff and resources and we could build a proper facility on the property adjacent to the present Animal Shelter and use the Lewis Property for storage.

Council Member Plyler made a motion to go forward to Building Committee to locate Animal Shelter next to its present location instead of Lewis Property on Highway #9 with Building Committee bringing back to Council. Council Member Moore seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

ITEMS SUBMITTED BY STAFF

a. SCDOT – Bridge Closure – Douglass

Advised Council that staff had received a letter, along with a map, from SCDOT in regards to the closure of the Bridge on S-67 (Taxahaw Road)/S-37 (Overbrook Road) over Lynches River. This bridge is in need of replacement at an estimated cost of \$2,500,000. Due to a lack of funds, low average daily traffic volume of 75 vehicles and availability of nearby river crossings, SCDOT is proposing to permanently remove the bridge without replacement. The department is requesting that the letter be returned to them stating that we either 'concur' or 'do not concur' with the permanent closure of the bridge.

After some discussion, Council Member Johnson made a motion to inform SCDOT that Council does not concur with the permanent closure of the bridge. Council Member Bruce E. Rivers seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

b. Setting the 2014 Holiday Schedule – Douglass

The following Holidays were set for 2014: January 1, January 20, February 17, April 18, May 26, July 4, September 1, November 11, November 27 & 28, December 24, 25, & 26.

Council Member Powe made a motion to approve the above 2014 Holiday Schedule. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

c. Setting the 2014 Council Meeting Dates – Douglass

The following dates and times were set for the 2014 Council Meetings: January 8, February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July 9, August 13, September 3, October 1, November 5, and December 3 all beginning at 9:00 a.m. The following Holidays were set for 2014: January 1, January 20, February 17, April 18, May 26, July 4, September 1, November 11, November 27 & 28, December 24, 25, & 26.

Council Member Powe made a motion to approve the above 2014 Council Meeting Dates. Council Member Plyler seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Motion passed.

d. Submission of CPST Projects – Douglass

Advised this item was placed on the Agenda just as a reminder to Council of the deadline for the submission of projects by Council in reference to the CPST.

Chairman Rivers: Stated that recommendations should be forwarded to Chairman Moore, Finance Committee before January 1, 2014 and that he would like for Council to have a Workshop in January after the Council Meeting regarding CPST.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member Johnson

None

Council Member Plyler

None

Council Member Moore

None

Council Member Cole

None

Council Member Bruce E. Rivers

Stated that he was concerned with the litter problem and that something needed to be done to eliminate it.

Council Member Curtis

Bridge named in honor of Deputy Darryl Quick.

Council Member Miller:

None

Council Vice-Chair Powe

None

Council Chair J. Matthew Rivers

Stated that the request of Council Member Curtis be sent to the Road Committee.

Administrator Denise Douglass

Council Member Moore has appointed Mark Ingram to the Zoning Appeals Board to represent District 8.

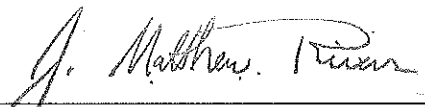
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council did not enter Executive Session.

ADJOURN

Council Member Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Cole seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.


APPROVED:



J. Matthew Rivers, Chairman

Date: January 8, 2014

ATTEST:



Susie Boswell, Clerk to Council